

Mary Jones' House Party

By RICHARD MARKLEY

One morning when I had been to the store and was returning to the farm I met Mary Jones.

"Howdy, Helen," she said. "I've got an idea. I don't see why we country people shouldn't have house parties as well as city folk."

"What's a house party?" I asked. "Why, a lot of people all go to somebody's house and stay there two or three days or a week or perhaps longer. They play games and dance, and, well, they don't do anything but amuse themselves. Father and mother are going over to spend a week with Aunt Jane pretty soon, and I'm going to have a house party. Will you come?"

"I suppose so."

"Jim Cunningham will be one of us." Mary's house party came off, sure enough. We had the house all to ourselves, and there was every reason why we should expect a good time. The first evening we were together we had a candy pulling, and the next morning the auto was brought out, and all went for a ride, except myself. I didn't feel well and concluded to stay at home. At least, this is the reason I gave for not going, but the real reason was that Sarah Flint, one of the girls, had undertaken to appropriate Jim Cunningham to herself, and I didn't like it, because he didn't let her know she couldn't do it.

While they were gone there was a rap of the knocker on the front door. I went there and found a girl who asked for Mary. I told her that Mary had gone on a ride, and she looked very much disappointed. She said she was Mary's cousin and had come all the way from Hanover Court House to see her. I told her to come in and make herself at home. She did so, and I went back to my room.

When I went downstairs again she had gone. The auto party didn't come back till evening, and when they did I failed to get an opportunity to tell Mary about her cousin who had been to see her. We had supper and in the evening danced, I playing the piano for the others. I didn't want to dance with Jim, and I didn't want to refuse him. That's the reason I did the playing.

The next morning a change had come over the house party. Something had gone wrong. Then I noticed that the girls were giving me the cold shoulder. Later on I went to Mary and asked her what was the matter. She said that while they were gone on the ride the day before somebody had taken things from their rooms. I saw right away what it meant. I was the only one left to do the stealing, so I was the thief.

It was very stupid of me not to think of Mary's cousin, but I was so broken up by what had occurred that I was incapable of anything for awhile.

It was plain that Sarah Flint was doing all she could to fix the theft on me. I, supposing that she was turning Jim against me, didn't give him a chance to show his faith in and sympathy for me, but just turned away from him every time he approached me. I suppose this made him mad, for he kept making up to Sarah, and when he passed me he held his nose in the air.

The evening after the day of the theft I said to Mary:

"I forgot to tell you that your cousin came to see you all the way from Hanover Court House when you were out motoring."

"My cousin! I haven't any cousin at Hanover Court House."

Then I told her how the girl had gone away without saying that she was going or leaving any message.

"Why didn't you tell me that before?" said Mary. "The girl was the thief, of course."

"I never thought of that," I replied.

Mary went right away to the others and told about the girl who had pretended to be her cousin and who had had the run of the house as long as she wanted to. Of course this put a new face on the affair, and they came to me, all except Sarah Flint, and asked my pardon for suspecting me of theft, though some of them said they hadn't thought I was guilty at all. But I knew better.

Jim watched for his opportunity to speak to me, and I purposely went off by myself to give him a chance. When he came to me he seemed not to know what to say.

"Why have you treated me so shabbily?" he asked.

"I have simply treated you as you deserve. When I was wrongfully accused, instead of standing by me you sided with my bitter enemy."

"I tried to tell you that I believed you innocent, but you wouldn't give me a chance."

"Not while you were listening to the poison of that snake."

"I was trying to get away from her, but you threw me back to her."

"If I threw you back I certainly didn't throw you back to her. You went to her of your own accord."

"And you won't make up?" he said ruefully.

"Any man who is engaged to a girl and won't stand by her when she is accused—is no man for me."

He went away very much crestfallen. Soon after this interview I saw Sarah trying to coddle him. He listened to her till she had come to a stopping point, then turned and walked away from her. I noticed that he didn't join her again while we were at Mary Jones'.

Finally I forgave him.

Reliable.

"Absolutely. You can always depend upon her being just about thirty minutes late."—Life.

Different Now.

New York had 150 watchmen in 1811 and in the same year Philadelphia had forty.

LIVING ON YOUR NERVE

Everybody has a store of nervous energy. When work or worry without sufficient rest exhausts this store a condition results that medical men call neurasthenia.

It is commonly met with in those who have had keen anxieties, as those who have cared for sick relatives, business men who worry over their affairs and neglect to take vacations. Women who are too active socially, anyone who has too much excitement and too little rest may show the symptoms.

The complexion becomes pale, you imagine unpleasant things, your brain insists on working when you want to go to sleep. Sometimes you are melancholy. Things that used to please you no longer do so. Constipation is usually present. You worry about yourself and your work and cannot forget your anxieties.

No doctor can cure neurasthenia. You have to do it yourself. The first thing is to write to the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y., for the booklet on the home treatment of nervous disorders. If you want to start the treatment before the booklet comes get a fifty-cent box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills from the nearest drug store and follow the directions carefully.

MOTION PICTURE NOVELTY.

Statues That Are Made to Dance, Act, Jump and Fight.

The motion picture folk have hit upon a novelty called "animated sculpture," which means that they take statues and make them move. The feat isn't as hard as it seems, although the work required is much greater than drawing hundreds of pictures with pen and ink for a movie cartoon.

The figures are first modeled in clay, then changed to different poses and photographed one by one. The photos are thrown on the screen without a break, so that they jump about as if they were real. The effect is startlingly realistic and highly amusing. In one of the films only recently completed there are no less than nine figures, all of them moving about as if they were flesh and blood. The rather jerky action serves only to enhance the amusing result.

To appreciate the amount of work required in making these new films it must be remembered that each time one of the sculptured figures moves a new pose must be made. This means, in other words, that the camera must stop until the sculptor goes over each plastic figure and molds it into the correct position before he can photograph it. There are sixteen different poses to a foot of film. Hence for the ordinary reel of 1,000 feet there are 16,000 separate poses for each figure. Imagine the work required when three or more figures have to be made for each scene!—Popular Science Monthly.

THE "OPEN DOOR."

What Is Meant by the Term in International Politics.

The "open door" is in international politics the principle of equal treatment in trade with oriental countries for all trading nations as opposed to the policy of effective monopoly in favor of any one nation.

The phrase came into popular use toward the end of the nineteenth century, when various European nations were trying to establish "spheres of influence" in China.

The United States was opposed to the granting to any nation of exclusive trading privileges in these "spheres of influence," and in 1899 John Hay, secretary of state, addressed a circular note to the interested powers, asking them to pledge themselves not to interfere with any treaty port or with any vested interest within their respective spheres of influence, to engage that discriminating customs and port duties should not be levied in such spheres and that within any nation's sphere of influence no higher railroad charges should be imposed upon subjects of other nations than upon subjects of the nations having such spheres.

The pledges asked were given in their entirety by France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy and Japan. Russia reserved the right to levy discriminatory duties.—New York Times.

Good Advice to Motorists.

The precaution enjoined by police department officials of New York city on owners of motor trucks, "Don't allow your driver to rely too much on the horn," might be accepted by motorcar owners generally to the advantage of all concerned. A widespread observance of this direction would afford excellent discipline for the drivers as well as increased safety for pedestrians and would mitigate the noise on city streets.—Christian Science Monitor.

Training Children.

A common fault among children is that of self excuse. If reproved for idleness, untidiness or other childish failings the excuse is often ready. This is a bad habit, which if not checked is apt to degenerate into untruthfulness, and the lie becomes as easy as the excuse.

Truly Remarkable.

"That's a wonderful child you have." "Yes, indeed. What impresses you as being most remarkable about him?" "The fact that he'll show off when you want him to."—Detroit Free Press.

Fixed to no spot is happiness. 'Tis nowhere to be found or everywhere.—Pope.

A GOOD WINTER HABIT

Many people dread winter because the sudden climatic changes bring colds, grippe, rheumatism, tonsillitis or bronchitis. But thousands of well-informed men and women today avoid much sickness for themselves and their children by taking a few bottles of Scott's Emulsion to make richer blood, fortify the membranes of the throat, and chest and create body warmth to resist sickness. Soldiers at war receive cod liver oil; it will also strengthen you.

KEEP WATCH ON CUBA

No New Steps Have Been Decided Upon by the State Department

GOVERNMENT TROOPS REPORTED

To Be Moving On Slowly Toward the Occupied Districts

Washington, Feb. 19.—A close watch on the situation created in Cuba by the insurrection of the Liberals is continued by the state department, but no further steps have been decided on and official reports indicated no radical development either in the plans of the rebels or those of the government. The rebels still hold Santiago and Camaguey, and minor successes in small towns and in the country nearby were reported. The government troops, it was said, were moving steadily toward the occupied districts and reports from Havana indicated that President Menocal's call for volunteers was being answered by many of the better class.

Both the state department and the navy are using every facility to gather information from which a close analysis of the facts may be made. Orders were sent Saturday to Minister Gonzales, the 12 American consular officers in Cuba and the commanders of the American naval vessels at Havana, Santiago and Guantanamo to make a thorough investigation not only of the military phases of the situation but of its economic and political aspects. It was declared that unless made necessary by developments, no step toward interference by the United States would be taken until the reports asked for had been studied.

American business interests indicated to state department officials Saturday that they would welcome the sending of a commission to Cuba to review the election returns, but there appeared little likelihood that such a measure would be adopted at present. Administration officials have made it plain that there is no disposition to interfere with Cuban affairs unless they are compelled to in order to guarantee to the people of that country a stable government.

SCIENCE HAS PLAYED BIG PART IN WAR

Paul Painleve Points Out the Phases in Which Science Has Led the Way, Including That of Locating Enemy Batteries by Sound.

Paris, Feb. 19.—Paul Painleve, a member of the French institute, eminent in mathematics, deputy for the Latin quarter, and until recently minister of public instruction and inventions, declares that Thomas Edison "was rather severe in his judgment when he expressed in a recent interview his surprise that science had played so small a part in the war."

"The most important scientific applications made since the war began are still military secrets," said M. Painleve to the Associated Press. "When it is all over and details of new inventions and new developments of old ones, discovered and put into practice, used at the front, may be revealed, I think Mr. Edison will revise his opinion and that the world generally will admit that science has done its part."

"To mention only isolated cases, the processes of wireless communication and the registering of sounds at distances, that is by the ordinary wireless currents and by ground induction, have been marvellously perfected through the requirements of the war. All the armies are rivaling each other in skillful methods for tapping the enemy's lines of telephonic communication from a considerable distance; not tapping as it is generally understood, but by the use of a marvelous instrument that enables the sentinel in his advanced listening post out beyond the front line of trenches to hear the enemy communications by telephone going over wires that are several hundred yards away."

"No more than an allusion to these things may be made," said M. Painleve, who, as minister of munitions, organized a veritable mobilization of scientists and scientific laboratories in France. The technical sections of his ministry collaborated with inventors to bring to practical use the interesting propositions that were found worth considering. He himself presided over a special commission of men of science, charged with the examination of inventions and processes proposed for use in the national defense, and must consequently be regarded as in a better position than any other man in France to know what science has done for the war.

"I would mention also," he said, "a system that we perfected and put into use for locating the enemy's batteries by sound. The principle was known before the war, but it was regarded as impracticable. It has, since the war, been brought to the highest state of perfection and efficiency and for months has been in use over the entire front. It has proven so effective that our adversaries, who captured a motor car with one of the outfits, have equipped themselves with similar appliances, but lacking the delicacy and the precision of our instruments. It was France that had the entire initiative of this brilliant application."

"Inventions for following the enemy's sapping and mining operations by sound, that were, in all armies, very crude and inefficient before the war, have made the most remarkable progress and will reflect honor upon French science later on."

"Aviation in every respect has been remarkably perfected by the efforts of science and technicians since the war began. To-day a pilot goes up in all kinds of weather without fear of being upset by sudden squalls, so well have been perfected the measures for the stability of flying machines. Great progress also has been made in the improvement of motors, particularly in the reduction of their weight in proportion to their effective power, so that they speed up to 150 miles an hour. Finally, in spite of the difficulties, wireless telegraphy has been marvellously adapted to aviation."



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Topics of the Home and Household.

A dash of salt improves the flavor of coffee.

Soak onions in cold water for an hour or more before boiling or frying.

To have dumplings light, they should not be uncovered from the time they are put into the pot until they are dished up to serve.

Everyone knows how hard it is to turn a narrow and perfectly even hem on table napkins. Put the hemmer attachment on your sewing machine, but do not use any thread. Just run the napkins through the hemmer without sewing them, and they are creased as narrow as desired and are all ready for hand sewing.

The little tongs of thin metal that come with boxes of candy often lie about unused. They may be used for holders in a summer camp or bungalow. Bend out the ends at right angles to the sides, about one inch for the tips, and through those bent-out ends drive nails into the wooden walls. Useful holders for scissors and other articles in livingroom or kitchen or for tooth brush in bunk rooms.

Chloroform will remove paint or oil from a carpet when everything else fails. The value of chloroform thus used does not appear to be well known. When the color of a fabric has been damaged by acid, and when ammonia has been used to neutralize the acid, the subsequent application of chloroform restores the color which the acid has apparently destroyed. Of course great care must be taken in the handling of the chloroform.

Plain Boiled Starch.

This is the way to make plain boiled starch:

About two tablespoonfuls of starch to a gallon of water. Wet the starch with cold water until it is of the consistency of cream. Then pour over it the water, which is bubbling. Stir constantly until smooth and boil for five minutes. Add one ounce of lard, or a tablespoonful of oil, to give a very smooth starch.

This is the foundation for all starching, excepting that done with uncooked starch.

If a very stiff starch is desired, a tablespoonful of gum arabic water to a quart of starch gives good results.

To prepare gum arabic water, pour two cups of boiling water over a quarter of a pound of gum arabic. When the gum is dissolved, strain the solution into a bottle, cork and keep on hand for use in the laundry.

The New Diningroom.

The day of the ornate, littered, much-bedecked diningroom is a thing of the past. The plate rail is fast disappearing. The heavily loaded rail has already gone. If you have a few beautiful plates that will harmonize with the color scheme of the room, an artistic tray or a bit of rare old china, you can display it on your plate rail if you wish, but the many steins, the souvenir plates, and the heavily ornamented cases and other bric-a-brac had better be removed. Nor is the sideboard any longer considered the place on which to spread out all your treasures. A bowl or basket of china or silver for fruit, a low pottery bowl for flowers or one of the very new pieces of venetian glassware in the center, with a pair of candlesticks and a small piece for either end, is far more artistic and attractive than all the cut glass and silver that you could crowd onto it.

The ornate glass dome of many colors has gone the way of the over-decorated plate rail. The best lighting for the diningroom of to-day, say the professional decorators, is the side light, with candles for the table. If you have a dome, however, you can cover it with a shade of plain silk to match the color scheme of the room, finishing it with a fringe of silk or beads. Make four smaller shades like it for the candle sticks.

Built-in cupboards with tiny glass panes in the doors are much more popular now than the china closet.

If one loves flowers in the house and is at all successful in raising them, the diningroom windows may be filled with them. Many of the new houses are built with wide sills in this room for that very thing. One very clever young woman in an apartment had a long, low bench built to set over her radiator in the bay window, stained to match the woodwork and with castors so it could easily be rolled to the other side of the room in winter if the radiator got too hot. A huge glass bowl stood in the middle of the bench for her goldfish and the plants were placed at either end. Over it hangs a wicker bird cage.—New York Sun.

Dorothy Dexter.

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SAYS MOTHER WAS VERMONT

Son of Hetty Green Fights Effort to Declare Her Citizen of N. Y.

HETTY LIVED IN FEAR FOR HER LIFE

She Moved Frequently from Place to Place and Used Many False Names

New York, Feb. 19.—Peculiarities in the life of the late Mrs. Hetty H. R. Green, reported to have been the richest woman in the world, were disclosed in the surrogate's court here Saturday through the filing of testimony given by her son, Col. E. H. R. Green, before a transfer tax appraiser.

The state is endeavoring to prove that Mrs. Green was a resident of New York when she died last July. Hitherto unrevealed methods which Mrs. Green adopted to conceal her identity to avoid cranks, her fears for her personal safety after the attempt on the life of Russell Sage, the numerous aliases under which she lived in unpretentious neighborhoods, and her persistent devotion to business and financial transactions, all were related by her son.

Among the assumed names used by Mrs. Green, her son testified, were Mrs. Dewey, Mrs. Warrington, Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Nash, Mrs. Martin, Miss Hickey and others he couldn't recall. A list of checks drawn in 1915, covering 25 weeks, showed the rich woman paid from \$19 to \$14 a week for board and lodging.

Asked if his mother remained long at a time in her boarding houses, Col. Green replied:

"No sir, a short time. The newspapermen and the cranks used to get after her and she would move, keep moving around. Every place she went she had a different name. Her favorite name was Dewey. She had a little dog by that name and so she put on the dog's name."

Of Mrs. Green's social life her son said:

"My mother was not much given to social life. She was nothing but business, business, business. Three or four years ago she said to me: 'I am alone, all the people that I know are dying off.'"

Col. Green said that his mother never owned any furniture or household effects in New York, although she spent a great part of her time in this city attending to her financial investments.

Asked where his mother lodged after 1911, he testified:

"I don't really know. She was moving around from one place to another. I think she used to visit the Countess Leary, and then she would be in Hoboken skipping around the boarding house. She used to go to a Mrs. Reynolds, who kept a boarding house up in 60-odd street."

Col. Green said his mother was born a Quaker but was baptized into the Protestant Episcopal church.

Legs papers were submitted at the appraiser's hearings in which Mrs. Green referred to herself as a resident of Bellows Falls, Vt. They included leases on realty in Chicago. Receipts for personal taxes paid in the village of Bellows Falls and the town of Rockingham, Vt., also were shown.

Col. Green said he retains his residence in Texas and votes there.

ALLEGED GERMAN AGENT.

Fred Kaiser Put Under \$2,000 Bail at Nogales, Ariz.

Nogales, Ariz., Feb. 17.—Fred Kaiser, said to be a German subject, was arrested here on a charge of violating the national defense laws. He was specifically charged with entering a warehouse illegally and was alleged to have been obtaining military information. Kaiser resided in Nogales.

Kaiser was released last night on \$2,000 bail furnished by his employers, who are dealers in builders' supplies.

Kaiser, who is said to be a former German vice consul at Manzanillo and Colima, Mexico, was arrested after a visit he is alleged to have made to the government warehouse near Camp Stephen Little, accompanied by another person, whose identity has not been learned.

Government agents charge that Kaiser, since the arrival of troops here for border service, has "cultivated the acquaintance of military officers at Camp Little, and lavishly entertained them."

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The Licorice Gum

Hello, Kittie. Want a piece of Adams Black Jack Gum? Oh, thanks, Billy. It's licorice, and I just love it.

Yes, and when you've got a cough or cold it fixes it up in no time. My Ma gets several packages at a time and she says it saves her a lot in doctor's bills and medicine for us children.

WILL HOLD FEAST OF DEATH.

For Mother of Gypsy Queen Mary, Who Died in Michigan.

There'll be a big suzerkranst feast this spring at that place in the United States where a certain band of Roumanian gypsies happens to be. Stella Stankovitch, 101 years old, mother of Queen Mary, died the other day in a tent pitched on the plains of Michigan. Queen Mary has decreed the feast of death.

Winter winds shake the canvas tents of the little colony the gypsies set up outside of Ford City. Barelegged children huddle about open fires and gaze in fear at the empty cloth shelter in which the queen mother died. Its flap snaps back and forth with the blow of the wind.

"I'm sick," Queen Mary said, when a visitor called on her. "I've got the grip."

She threw a few chunks of wood into a smoking, battered stove. Behind her stood a young woman smoking a pipe, and a barefooted girl of seven. On a bed, beneath ragged coverings, lay another child, feverishly ill.

"We will have a feast in memory of Queen Stella between Easter and May," the queen went on. "We'll have roast lamb and roast pig. We'll have cabbage and sauerkraut and fruits. We'll put a big table outdoors, and the feast will be free. Everybody will be welcome to come and eat of the feast of death."

And her black, beady eyes glowed in anticipation.—Kansas City Star.

AVOID HOT ROOMS.

Your Health Will Be Better and Your Work More Effective.

The right temperature for the office, living room or workroom, that degree of heat that will keep one comfortable, healthful and at the same time will enable him to do the greatest amount of work with the greatest ease is discussed in a bulletin from the North Carolina state board of health. It says:

"Seventy degrees of heat, which most people think they are keeping when in reality the thermometer reads anywhere from 72 to 78, is for all practical purposes too hot. It is enervating and unhealthy. It predisposes to fatigue, colds, grippe and especially to pneumonia, for the reason that too much heat lowers bodily resistance."

"Careful study and all experiments demonstrate that a moderately cool, dry air in motion is the best air condition for the body. At no time is a temperature higher than 68 degrees recommended, while a much lower temperature is needed to work in. In no country in Europe is the indoor temperature allowed to go over 68 degrees, while the usual house temperature over there is 60. Huntington states that men do their best mental work when the air temperature is 60 and their best physical work when it is about 40. The best all round temperature for work is 50, he says."

"Observations have further shown that the minimum amount of work during the year is done during the hot summer months and the middle winter months—January and February—when indoor heat is highest. Students at West Point and Annapolis do their best mental work, mathematics in particular, in the spring and fall and their worst work in midwinter and midsummer. Excessive heat and lack of cool, fresh air are thought to make the difference."

Only Wanted the Chance.

Emperor—I do not care to hear your proposition, sir. Everything that is submitted must first be put through the prime minister. Subject—Nothing would please me better. I wanted to show you the new buyout which I have invented for army use.—London Answers.

But No One Is Perfect.

"A perfect wife never nags," says a writer in an exchange. "That's true. And a perfect husband never gives cause for nagging."—Baltimore Sun.

Testing a Hat. Put on your hat and all outdoor regalia, says the London Chronicle, and then go where you can stand between a strong light and a bare wall. Notice your silhouette and note the proportions and symmetry. If these are not artistic or satisfactory throw away the hat and buy another.

Well Worn Question. If a mother were to paint a green ring around her nose and dye her hair blue the first words of the husband and children on coming home would still be, "Is dinner ready?"—New York Sun.

New Idea in Battleships. A captain in the United States navy has made a proposal for the building of a 600 foot battleship which would be semisubmersible.

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